



Refugee children from Eritrea posing for photo at the school in Hitsats refugee camp, sheltering some 12,000 Eritrean refugees. UNHCR/Kisut G.Egziabher

ETHIOPIA

FACT SHEET

February 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

811,555	17,919	9,839	42,109
Number of refugees registered in the country	Number of refugees newly registered in January & February 2017	Number of refugees newly registered in February	Number of unaccompanied and separated children

Population of Concern

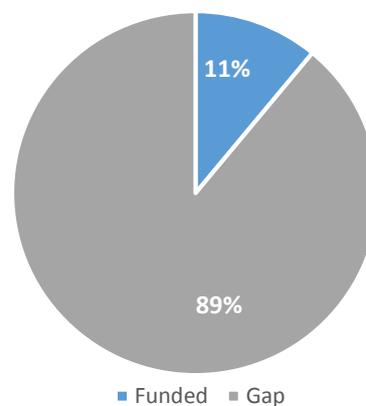
811,555

By country of origin

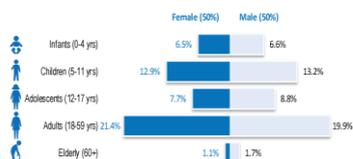
Country	Total PoC
South Sudan	349,086
Somalia	246,859
Eritrea	167,619 ¹
Sudan	40,779
Yemen	1,616
Other Nationalities	5,596
Total	811,555

Funding (as of 28 February 2017)

USD 307.5 million requested



Age/Gender Breakdown



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 308 national staff
- 130 international staff
- 160 individual contractors
- 21 deployees
- 11 IUNVs

Total: 630

Offices:

26 offices, including the **UNHCR Representation in Ethiopia (in Addis Ababa)**, as well as Sub/Field Offices & Field Units located in five Regional States: **Afar** (Aysaita, Barahle) **Benishangul-Gumuz** (Assosa, Tsore, Bambasi, Sherkole, Tongo), **Gambella** (Gambella, Dimma, Itang, Pugnido), **Somali** (Jijiga, Melkadida, Aw-barre, Sheder, Kebribeyah, Dollo Ado, Bokolmanyo, Kobe, Hilaweyn, Buramino) and **Tigray** (Shire, Mekele, Embamadre, Shimelba).

¹ 81, 078 Eritrean refugees previously registered as living in the camps are believed to have spontaneously settled elsewhere in Ethiopia. This figure will be subjected to verification

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- The Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) is UNHCR's main government counterpart with which close cooperation is maintained to ensure the protection of refugees in Ethiopia.
- UNHCR is fully engaged in coordination fora to mainstream the needs of refugees within humanitarian and national plans. These coordination mechanisms include the UN Country Team, the Humanitarian Country Team, the Refugee Task Force, and donor, NGO and inter-agency meetings at the national, field and camp levels. This has ensured an effective coordination environment in the context of the Level 3 Emergency for South Sudanese refugees as well as the development of a regional response plan for the same situation in 2017.
- The number of new arrivals from Somalia has shown a marked increase at the beginning of 2017, with a total of 4,106 people crossing the border through Dollo Ado between 1 January and 28 February 2017. This figure represents a sharp rise compared to the trend last year. 71% are children whilst 88% are women and children. The new arrivals, mostly originating from the Bay, Middle Juba and Gedo regions, report to have fled conflicts, exacerbated by food insecurity in Somalia. UNHCR, ARRA and partners are responding to their needs.
- Over 5,500 South Sudanese refugees and 2,680 Eritrean refugees were registered in Ethiopia during the month.
- ARRA and UNHCR jointly organized two meetings with external stakeholders to discuss the roadmap and the associated structures meant to create a legal environment conducive to the implementation of the set of pledges the Ethiopian government made at the Leaders' Summit in New York in September 2016. The meetings were attended by senior officials representing the donor community, Government line ministries, NGOs, UN agencies and other stakeholders who also provided valuable inputs for the roadmap and the draft regulation that would be submitted to the Council of Ministers for approval. Once adopted, the Regulation will complement the 2004 Refugee Proclamation and serve as a roadmap for the implementation of the pledges.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- A party to both the **1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees**, and its **1967 Protocol** and the **1969 OAU Convention**, the Government of Ethiopia provides protection to refugees from some 20 countries, with the majority originating from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Sudan. **South Sudanese, Eritreans, Yemenis and Somalis originating from South and Central Somalia** are recognized through light screening procedures. To all others, **individual refugee status determination** is undertaken by the Government's Eligibility Committee on which UNHCR sits as an observer.
- The Ethiopian Government maintains the policy requiring refugees to reside in **refugee camps**. However, the Government allows certain refugees to reside in the urban areas, primarily Addis Ababa. They include **refugees in need of special medical attention unavailable in camps; refugees with serious protection concerns or inability to stay in camps for humanitarian reasons; and Eritrean Refugees enrolled in the Out-of-Camp Policy (OCP)**. A total of 19,972 such refugees reside in Addis Ababa.

Education

- The current school year (2016/17) has seen 35,365 new students enrolled in Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), elementary and secondary schools, bringing the total number of refugees enrolled in general education in Ethiopia to 179,022, including 75,359 female students. Compared to the figures recorded last year, this represents an increase of almost 25%.
- A more detailed analysis of the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) by school level shows an increase from 42% to 56% for ECCE; from 53% to 62.4% for primary, and from 9 to 9.6% for secondary education. Eighty ECCE learning centers, 56 primary and 18 secondary schools in and around 24 of the 25 refugee camps cater to the learning needs of the students.

Health

- In January 2017 (February report being compiled), a total of 47,900 persons benefited from consultations in the health centers across the refugee camps, 7% of whom were from the host communities. The health facility utilization rate stood at 1.0 consultations per refugee per year (standard: 1 - 4 consultations). The mortality rate in children under five is of 0.1/1000/ month and remains within the expected range in all camps. 96% of all deliveries in the camps were conducted with the help of skilled birth attendants.

Nutrition and Food Security

- A total of 35 severely acutely malnourished and 701 moderately acutely malnourished children aged 6-59 months were treated in the nutrition centers in all refugee camps as of end of January 2017.
- Nutrition screening was conducted at the Dollo Ado reception center targeting all under five, pregnant and lactating women who arrived in Ethiopia since 1 January 2017. The result showed a Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rate of 65.2%, with 7.2% of the under-fives severely, acutely malnourished (SAM) and 58% others were moderately, acutely malnourished (MAM). About 13% of the pregnant and lactating women screened were found to be severely, acutely malnourished. UNHCR and its nutrition partners are working to address the situation.

Water and Sanitation

- In total, 10.8 million litres of water are supplied to refugees in the country on daily basis and this represents an average per capita access of 17.6 litres.
- UNHCR and partners commenced work to expand the Itang, Kule, Tierkidi water system to Nguenyyiel refugee camp. The expansion work envisages to increase the daily water supply capacity from 3 million to 4.5 million liters.

Camp Coordination and Camp Management

- UNHCR and ARRA work in close coordination with partners to ensure proper and coordinated delivery of protection and assistance. Camp coordination meetings and technical working groups take place both at the zone and camp levels.

Access to Energy and Environment Protection

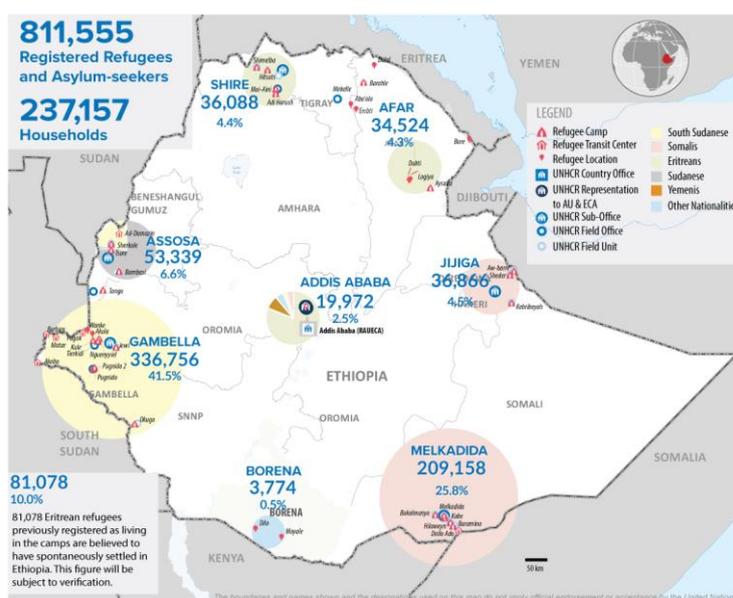
- UNHCR continues to provide refugees with ethanol fuel and kerosene for cooking as well as solar lanterns and street lights for lighting. In 2017, improved access to alternative energy sources and lighting has been envisaged through the provision of more than one million litres of liquid fuel, over 4,000 fuel saving stoves, 15,000 solar lanterns, and 619 solar street lights. Production of un-carbonized briquettes from solid waste is being piloted and expected to provide energy to 200 refugee households.
- Activities aimed to mitigate land degradation in and around the refugee camps are going on. Amongst other aspects, 1.2 million seedlings will be raised and planted while some 480 hectares of land will be rehabilitated.

Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance

- The Refugee Outreach Volunteer (ROVs) programme covering General Protection and Child and Youth Protection conducted home visits of refugees in Addis Ababa and identified cases with special protection needs. The group had its first case management meeting with UNHCR to discuss the identified individual cases and receive guidance on follow up.
- Self-reliance and livelihoods projects aimed at reducing the refugees' dependency on aid and equip them with skills, are being implemented in different camps, mainly in the Dollo Ado camps where the IKEA Foundation and other donors are providing funds. Refugees receive training on cooperative development, business management and business grant support to improve their livelihoods. Refugees and host community farmers are involved in irrigated agriculture and share the products on a 50:50 basis.

Durable Solutions-updated

- Providing an increased number of refugees the opportunity for resettlement is a priority for the operation, as the conditions for voluntary repatriation do not exist, whilst opportunities for local integration are limited. Ethiopia's resettlement referral target for 2017 is 7,500 individuals. In February 2017, 1,230 individuals were referred to the UNHCR Regional Service Centre for onward submission to resettlement countries. During the reporting period, 573 persons have been submitted and 449 persons departed for resettlement countries.



UNHCR is grateful for the direct contributions to the UNHCR Ethiopia Operation in 2016 from:

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